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13	UNITED STATES DISTRICT C
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	DISTRICT OF NEVADA
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# STATES DISTRICT COURT

MARK HUNT, an individual,

Plaintiff,

VS.

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ZUFFA, LLC d/b/a ULTIMATE FIGHTING CHAMPIONSHIP, a Nevada limited liability Company; BROCK LESNAR, an individual; and DANA WHITE, an individual; and DOES 1-50, inclusive,

Defendants.

Case No. 2:17-cv-00085-JAD-CWH

**DEFENDANT BROCK LESNAR'S** REPLY IN SUPPORT OF REQUEST FOR JUDICIAL NOTICE [ECF NO. 24]

Plaintiff Mark Hunt opposes or otherwise seeks to limit the scope of the Court's consideration and/or judicial notice of certain documents submitted as part of Defendant Brock Lesnar's Motion to Dismiss. In particular, Hunt argues (i) the subject documents are not integral to his Complaint and, thus, were not incorporated by reference, and/or (ii) the content

of the documents are highly disputed and thus not subject to judicial notice. Mr. Lesnar therefore addresses Mr. Hunt's opposition [ECF No. 43] below.

#### I. **ARGUMENT**

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#### A. **Governing Law**

It is well-accepted that courts may "[t]ake judicial notices of 'undisputed matters of public record,' but generally may not take judicial notice of 'disputed facts stated in public records." Lee v. City of Los Angeles, 250 F.3d 668, 690 (9th Cir. 2001) (emphasis in original). Facts subject to judicial notice may be considered on a motion to dismiss. Mullis v. U.S. Bankr. Ct., 828 F.2d 1385, 1388 (9th Cir. 1987)." Gammel v. Hewlett-Packard Co., 905 F.Supp. 2d 1012, 1061-62 (C.D. Cal. 2012) (emphasis in original).

Because Plaintiff disputes Co-Defendants Zuffa LLC and Dana White's Request for Judicial Notice on the same grounds, Mr. Lesnar concurs that the doctrine of incorporation by reference is distinct from judicial notice. The Ninth Circuit has stated:

In evaluating the context in which the statement appeared, we must take into account all parts of the communication that are ordinarily heard or read with it. In doing so, we deviate from the general rule that courts, when ruling on a motion to dismiss, must disregard facts that are not alleged on the face of Our approach is permissible under the 'incorporation by the complaint. reference' doctrine, which permits us to take into account documents whose contents are alleged in a complaint and whose authenticity no party questions, but which are not physically attached to the [plaintiff's] pleading. We have extended the 'incorporation by reference' doctrine to situations in which the plaintiff's claim depends on the content of a document, the defendant attaches the document to its motion to dismiss, and the parties do not dispute the authenticity of the document, even though the plaintiff does not explicitly allege the contents of that document in the complaint.

Knievel v. ESPN, 393 F.3d 1068, 1076 (9th Cir. 2005) (internal quotations and citations omitted). Both doctrines, therefore, allow the Court to consider the documents at issue herein.

## B. Documents Related to Brock Lesnar's Adjudication for this Anti-Doping Violation (Exhibits A, C, D, E, F, G, H)

The fact that Mr. Hunt attempts to suggest that legal documents do "not meet the requirements for judicial notice" and that they are not "generally known" or from an "accurate

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and reliable source that is not subject to reasonable dispute" is an insult to this Court, and frankly, to common sense. See Opp. to RJN at 4:4-11 [ECF No. 43]. Hunt may try to argue that he did not incorporate by reference any NSAC documents, but he certainly does not dispute their existence. See Opp. to RJN at 4:8-9 [ECF No. 43] ("Moreover, mere reference in the complaint is not enough for this Court to consider the exhibit."). The entirety of Mr. Hunt's Complaint against Mr. Lesnar relies upon the fact that Mr. Lesnar was cited for an anti-doping rule violation and therefore any government records on the matter should thus, be subject to judicial notice. See Northstar Fin. Advisors Inc. v. Shwab Investments, 779 F.3d 1036, 1043 (9th Cir. 2015) (taking judicial notice of SEC filings where the information was made publicly available by the SEC and neither party disputed the "authenticity of the [documents] or the accuracy of the information displayed therein.").

Furthermore, the UFC Anti-Doping Rules and Press Release that were drafted by, and in coordination with, the United States Anti-Doping Agency are subject to judicial notice on the same grounds. USADA is the national anti-doping organization (NADO) in the United States for Olympic, Paralympic, Pan American, and Parapan American sport. The organization operates independently and is charged with managing the anti-doping program, including incompetition and out-of-competition testing, results management processes, drug reference resources, and athlete education for all United States Olympic Committee (USOC) recognized sport national governing bodies, their athletes and events. Any dispute as to the authenticity of these documents contents (Exhibits A and H), are a dispute to the entire authority of USADA.

# C. Articles Published on Publicly Available and Well-Known Websites (Exhibits B, I, J, L, M)

Throughout Mr. Hunt's Complaint, he incorporates by reference and submits articles and interviews published by various sports-related journalism sites as a basis for his RICO claim, yet disputes Mr. Lesnar's capability to do the same. See Comp. Mr. Lesnar does not dispute that reports in online newspapers, by themselves, are insufficient for judicial notice of a fact which is "capable of accurate and ready determination by resort to sources whose accuracy

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cannot reasonably be questioned." FRE 201(b)(2). However, this Court may take judicial notice of publications introduced to "indicate what was in the public realm at the time." Heliotrope Gen. Inc. v. Ford Motor Co., 189 F.3d 971, 981 (9<sup>th</sup> Cir. 1999). These publications meet the standards for admissibility under the Federal Rules of Evidence, and this Court may appropriately take judicial notice as an indication of what information existed and was before the general public at the time Mr. Hunt's claims arose against Mr. Lesnar. See Von Saher v. Norton Simon Museum of Art at Pasadena, 578 F.3d 1016 (9<sup>th</sup> Cir. 2009).

### D. Mark Hunt's Fight Record (Exhibit K)

Also submitted by Co-Defendants Zuffa, LLC and Dana White (Exhibit 3) and challenged by Plaintiff, is the fight record of Mark Hunt. See Defendant Zuffa LLC and Dana White's Reply in Opposition to Plaintiff's Opposition to Request for Judicial Notice (ECF No. 39). Plaintiff acknowledges that he incorporated his own fight record into his Complaint by referring to the "no contest" result in his bout against Mr. Lesnar who later tested positive for a banned substance. Plaintiff nevertheless attempts to mitigate its significance despite that it is generally known and not subject to dispute by any party in this case. This Court may and should take notice of Mr. Hunt's fight record in light of the fact that he himself alleges, "his record remains stagnant and he is deprived of the opportunity to earn a win." See Comp. ¶ 87; see also Op. to Mot. To Dismiss [ECF No. 19] at 4:11-13 ("losing bouts is bad for business.").

Because the outcome(s) of Mr. Hunt's fights are the basis for his RICO claim, it follows that his conclusory allegations regarding his fight record against Mr. Lesnar and two other athletes should not be taken at face-value without consideration of his UFC fight record as a whole. See Steckman v. Hart Brewing Inc., 143 F.3d 1293, 1295 (9th Cir. 1998) (when the "conclusory allegations" of a complaint are "contradicted by documents referred to in the complaint," the court is "not required to accept [the allegations] as true"); see also Shwartz v. United States, 234 F.3d 428, 435 (9th Cir. 2000) (articulating same principle when allegations in complaint "contradict facts that may be judicially noticed by the court[.]").

In light of the foregoing facts, law and analysis, Defendant Brock Lesnar respectfully requests that the Court consider the exhibits attached to both the first Request for Judicial Notice [ECF No. 24] as part of Mr. Lesnar's Motion to Dismiss and his second Request for Judicial Notice filed concurrently with his Reply brief [ECF No. 49].

DATED this 26<sup>th</sup> day of April, 2017.

CHRISTIANSEN LAW OFFICES

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-and-

HOWARD L JACOBS, ESQ. THE LAW OFFICES OF HOWARD L. JACOBS Attorneys for Defendant Brock Lesnar

# **CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE**

Pursuant to Federal Rule of Civil Procedure 5 and the Court's Local Rules, the
undersigned hereby certifies that on this day, April 26, 2017, a copy of the foregoing document
DEFENDANT BROCK LESNAR'S REPLY IN SUPPORT OF REQUEST FOR JUDICIAL
NOTICE [ECF NO. 24] was filed and served through the Court's electronic filing system
(CM/ECF) upon all registered parties and their counsel

An employee of Christiansen Law Offices